NOT FOR RELEASE ANY EARLIER THAN 12:00 NOON, AUGUST 7, 1970

SUBJECT: NEWS RELEASE
GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY - JAAP

FROM: JOLIET REGION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
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Ground breaking ceremonies were held today at the Joliet Army Ammunition Plant (JAAP) for $40 million worth of new production facilities. The construction is the first phase of a $54 million modernization program that will bring the plant in compliance with the committment made by President Nixon to reduce air and water pollution at federal installations.

JAAP is a government owned, contractor operated, munitions production facility. Uniroyal, Inc. is the operating contractor.

The equipment now in use at the plant was built during World War II, and is out-of-date in light of recent technological advances in both pollution abatement and production techniques.

Representative Leslie C. Arends (R-17th Dist., Ill.,) turned the first shovel of dirt, assisted by Brigadier General Peter G. Olenchuk, Commanding General of the Ammunition Procurement and Supply Agency (APSA) and Gordon A. Anderson, director of manufacturing for the chemical division, Uniroyal, Inc.

The ground breaking marked the start of construction of the facilities designed to reduce air and water pollution in the production of explosives and acid at the plant.

Principal speaker at the ceremony was William F. Blackburn, president, Joliet Region Chamber of Commerce. Other speakers on the program included the plant Commanding Officer LTC Charles F. Ball and Plant Manager Louis A. Doherty. Services Director Ralph J. Miller was master of

The ceremonies attended by 100 guests, included state and local dignitaries and representatives of local industries and business organizations. A large number of JAAP employees witnessed the event.

The ground breaking ceremony was followed by a noon luncheon at which Congressman Arends was the principal speaker.

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